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CONFIDENTIAL 25X1A

U. S. - BRITISH OFFICIALS ONLY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY U. S. S. R.

DATE: 25X1C

SUBJECT PW Camps in Asbest, Urals

INFO. [REDACTED]

DIST. 10 February 1947

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PAGES

ORIGIN [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT

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1. Some 14,000 officers and enlisted men are held in the seven PW camps known collectively as 82-5 in Asbest, Urals. Under the supervision of MVD Internal Troops they work in the nearby asbestos quarries and on factory-construction projects, and rations are issued in proportion to the amount of work performed. Officers above the rank of major are not required to work.
2. Although the majority of PW's are Germans, there are considerable numbers of Jugoslavs, Spaniards (from the "Blue Division") and members of various other non-German formations which fought with the German armies in the Soviet Union.
3. PW's are organized into companies according to their nationality. Each company has an assigned political instructor of its own nationality who leads the weekly two-hour political instruction periods under the guidance of the Russian Chief of the Political Section of the camp. So-called "activists" (those who show themselves most receptive to the political instruction) receive additional instruction and wear special insignia on their caps. For the Germans, these insignia are small cloth escutcheons in the German colors on which are superimposed a red star with hammer and sickle.
4. It has been stated that non-German PW's from Western European countries were "fattened up" in successive transient camps before being released to the custody of their national repatriation representatives. This, he stated, was particularly true of the camp in St. Valentin, Austria, where they were fed rations frequently better than those of the Russian guards and very much better than those given to the "Vlassovites" and other Soviet nationals awaiting repatriation to the Soviet Union.

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Comment: This report amplifies and confirms earlier information on the same camp.)

Document No.

NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

☒ DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REC. 27/1763

Date: 25 APR 1978

By: Oll

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 13 October 1973 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
Next Review Date: 2008

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

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